ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

STREAMBANK RESTORATION AND BOATRAMP REHABILITATION AT STICKNEY CREEK FISHING ACCESS SITE

April 5, 1999

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks is the sponsor of this project and has authority to provide development for public recreation on Department lands under 23-2-101 MCA. The Department can be contacted at POB 6610, Great Falls, Montana 59401 (406)454-5840.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

This project will replace the existing boatramp and bank structures and stabilize the bank along the length of the FAS at Stickney Creek Fishing Access Site (FAS) (T16N,R3W,S5). This heavily used site is one of the primary access points for the Missouri River waterway between Wolf Creek and Cascade, Montana below Holter Dam. It is approximately 1.5 acres in size and consists of grassland terrace. The site has been a formal river access site for at least 25 years and has current developments including a gravel parking area; two handi-capped accessible latrines, regulation signs, primitive camping sites, and boat ramp.

This project will remove and replace the old ramp and failed bank erosion structures. This will better serve the recreating public in a safe and effective manner. The streambanks immediately above and below the ramp will be stabilized or restored in an appropriate, effectual and aesthetically pleasing manner.

The project will include removal and disposal of the existing concrete ramp and bank erosion control structures; reconstruction of the ramp to its original 16 foot width using placed cabled-concrete mats. Affected streambank areas will be protected by utilizing cabled concrete mats and/or riprap and fill on the streambanks immediately above and below the ramp. Replacement of the inboard shotcrete slope above the ramp will be accomplished using cabled-concrete mat. Extensive use of cabled concrete mats is proposed to allow some revegetation of the slopes, safe use by the recreating public and prevention of undercutting and erosion of the structures. This appears to be a very effective and cost-effective material.

Also as part of this project, we propose to rehabilitate the streambank upstream from the ramp. The toe of the slope would be stabilized with rip-rap or stone (D89-D90 of streambed) wrapped in a geotextile fabric. Sod would be placed on the sloped bank above the ordinary high water mark, and the area seeded with native sod-forming grasses. Coconut/Coir fabric will be installed over the sod and sloped bank to provide protection from shear stress. Willow wattles, sprigs and/or bundles would be planted along the bank to promote bank stability without substantial hardening of the bank. Access would be discouraged over much of the rehabilitated bank to increase the probability of re-establishing vegetation and provide stability.

Cost of this project is projected to be between $40,000 and $45,000 and will be funded with sportsmen license funds. It would be scheduled to be constructed to minimize impacts on recreational use and spawning fish. The ramp will be unusable for approximately six weeks.

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENT:

Land Use. The surrounding area land use is a mix of agricultural and residential homesites. The site is bounded by Old Highway 91 (Highway maintains), private land and the river.

Farmland. The proposed project area is already developed as a fishing access site. No prime or productive farmlands would be impacted.

Flora and Fauna. The small undeveloped area of the site has a mix of grasses, small shrubs and bushes. There are no known rare or endangered animal or plant species on site.

Soils and Topography. Soils of the area are made up of gravels and loam typical of a river bottom. The topography is flat except for the steep riverbank.

Air Quality, Water Quality and Climate. Both air and water quality in the area is generally excellent. Climate is typical of Montana with extremes of both hot and cold.

Socio-Economic Factors. The Missouri River in this area is highly prized for it's float-fishing opportunities. The local communities of Craig, Wolf Creek and to a certain extent, Great Falls and Helena benefit from recreation and tourist industry dollars.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

This project will have a positive impact on both the immediate physical and human environments.

This project will contribute to the safety and efficiency of boat-launching. By simply replacing the existing structures, impacts on levels of use of the river will be minimized.

The riverbank will be stabilized and restored through hardened stabilization near the boat ramp and utilizing a softer approach on the streambank upstream from the ramp.

The contractor will raze and dispose of existing deteriorated ramp river planks and bank shotcrete. The contractor will shape and revegitate any exposed areas. Slopes will be blended into the existing topography of the area. Reseeding shall be done with a mixture of native grasses. Vegetation will be used to protect slopes and to direct use in

an appropriate manner.

During construction, the contractor must protect trees, plant growth and features designated to remain, as final landscaping. All construction materials and products must be stored and protected in accordance with manufacturer's instructions with seals and labels intact and legible. Sensitive products will be stored in weather-tight, climate controlled enclosures. Loose granular materials must be stored on solid flat surfaces in a well-drained area and protected from intermixing with foreign materials. The contractor must provide off-site storage and protection when site does not permit on-site storage or protection.

The contractor must remove all waste and surplus materials, rubbish and construction facilities from the site. They shall at all times keep the premises free from the accumulation of rubbish and other waste material. The site must be cleaned with paved areas swept clear and landscaped surfaces raked clean.

We anticipate no impact to cultural resources since the project is taking place in a previously disturbed area.

Physical Environment

The project will have a positive impact on the physical environment. By stabilizing and restoring an eroded bank, sedimentation of the river and loss of soil and vegetation will be halted.

Temporary emission of dust and exhaust will occur during construction. Noxious weeds will not be given the opportunity to expand as all disturbed areas will be reclaimed. Foreign materials, weeds and undesirable plants and their roots, debris and rocks greater than two inches will be removed. Weed control activities following construction will continue.

Human Environment

The construction phase of the project will have limited, short term impacts on the human environment and overall the project will provide a safer public facility. Walking and driving surfaces will not present a safety hazard. There will be increased noise levels during the construction. Floaters may be temporarily inconvenienced since they will be unable to use the launch facilities during construction. However, additional boat access 3.5 miles upstream and downstream 0.9 and 1.9 miles should provide adequate launch facilities during construction. The contractor shall coordinate construction activities to allow public use of the existing facilities such as the parking lot and latrine at all times during normal working hours. Use by the public of the boat launch area itself will not be allowed during demolition and installation of the ramp mats. The contractor will have thirty days to complete the project from the date of notice to proceed.

The project, replacing an existing like facility, will not contribute to increased

employment, patterns of movement, community social structure, commercial use or other community impacts. It is intended to provide for the current level of recreational use that this location has received in the recent past. It will have no major impact in type of use since most trailered boats can be launched at the site. Most other ramps in the area can also accommodate most craft.

DESIRES OF THE PUBLIC

Public meetings and a questionnaire were used to gather public opinion in preparing the 1990 Missouri River Management Plan. One of the issues of concern was facilities along the Missouri. This survey did not ask about size of facilities, but simply which type of facilities were preferred. Boat ramps were ranked 3 out of 7(page C-21).

This proposal is very similar in scope to a project completed at Wolf Creek Bridge Fishing Access Site in Spring 1998. Both ramps are of similar age, have reached the end of their useful lives. As at the Wolf Creek Bridge FAS, this proposal would simply replace the Stickney ramp.

During the environmental assessment stage of the Wolf Creek project, extensive public comment occurred. This included many telephone conversations and two public meetings, one at the Wolf Creek Bridge FAS site. Although views are varied concerning future management of the river, one consistent message from the public was that facilities should remain "as is" in both size and type. The intent of this project is to rehabilitate a decaying boatramp and to stabilize the immediate streambank near the ramp.

The Department has agreed to participate in and facilitate continued discussions about social issues on the river.

All public comments and FWP responses are stored at the Great Falls office and available upon request.

Public comment will be accepted for 30 days from the issuance of this EA. Any comments received will be integrated into the final decision document if appropriate.

LONG RANGE MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

The project will require existing maintenance levels or may even reduce ramp maintenance costs in the future.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

A) Ramp Alternatives

1. Repair the ramp to the existing configuration. The broken section would be removed and repoured. The ramp would taper from 16 feet at the top(the existing width) to 12

feet at waterline. 12 foot wide concrete planks would be attached below waterline. Estimated cost = $15,000.

2. Remove the broken section of the ramp and repour the original 16 foot width to the waterline with twelve foot wide planks below the waterline. Estimated cost = $20,000.

3. Completely remove the existing ramp and sideslopes and rebuild the ramp in the current location and at a sixteen foot width. This option would also include twelve foot wide concrete planks or cabled concrete mat below water. Estimated cost = $30,000.
** Preferred alternative.

4. Leave ramp as is.

B) Bank stabilization alternatives

1. The existing crumbling concrete side slopes would be removed and stabilized with rip rap and/or cabled concrete mat. The treatment would be keyed into the riverbank by trenching. * Preferred alternative. Estimated cost $10,000.

2. Remove the broken down concrete and replace with a similar smooth concrete with the base keyed into the riverbed. Estimated cost $5,000.

3. As is.

Proposed Decision
With no anticipated significant impacts to the environment or the public this EA is the appropriate level of analysis. The described project is the preferred alternative.

This EA was prepared by David Todd, Regional Parks Manager.

MEPA/NEPA/HB495 CHECKLIST

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Type of Proposed State Action** - Stream Bank restoration and boat ramp rehabilitation at Stickney Creek Fishing Access Site

2. **Agency Authority for the Proposed Action** - FWP property

3. **Name of Project** - Stickney Creek FAS stream bank and boat ramp rehab.

4. **Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor (if other than the agency)**

5. **If Applicable:**
   Estimated Construction/Commencement Date September 15, 1999
   Estimated Completion Date October 15, 1999
   Current Status of Project Design (% complete) 100%

6. **Location Affected by Proposed Action (county, township and range)**
   Lewis & Clark County, T16N, R3W

7. **Project Size: Estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:**

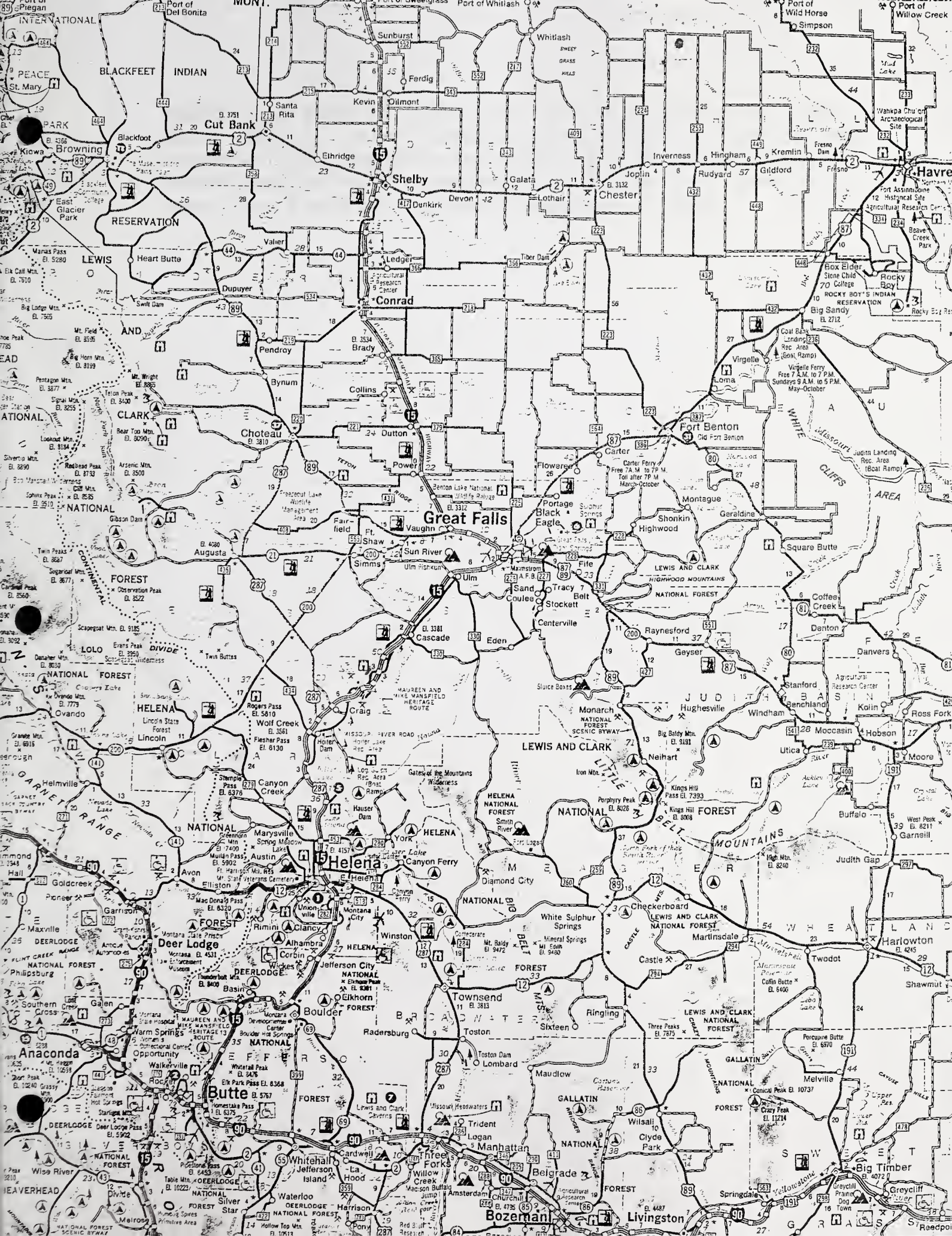
   (a) Developed:
   residential. . . . . .0 acres
   industrial. . . . . 0 acres

   (b) Open Space/Woodlands/
   Recreation . . . . . .5 acres

   © Wetlands/Riparian
   Areas . . . . . .5 acres

   (d) Floodplain . . . . . .5 acres

   (e) Productive:
   irrigated cropland . . . . . 0 acres
   dry cropland . . . . . 0 acres
   forestry . . . . . 0 acres
   rangeland . . . . . 0 acres
   other . . . . . 0 acres


MONT.
Port of Piegan
INTERNATIONAL
PEACE
St. Mary
PARK
Kiowa
Browning
East Glacier Park
Port of Del Bonita
BLACKFEET INDIAN RESERVATION
Cut Bank
Blackfoot
Heart Butte
Valier
Dupuyer
Port of Sweetgrass
Port of Whitlash
Whitlash
SWEET GRASS HILLS
Sunburst
Ferdig
Kevin
Oilmont
Santa Rita
Ethridge
Shelby
Dunkirk
Devon
Galata
Lothair
Chester
Joplin
Inverness
Rudyard
Hingham
Gildford
Kremlin
Fresno
Havre
Port of Wild Horse
Simpson
Port of Willow Creek
Wahkpa Chu'gn Archaeological Site
Fort Assinniboine Historical Site
Box Elder
Rocky Boy
ROCKY BOY'S INDIAN RESERVATION
Big Sandy
Ledger
Conrad
Brady
Pendroy
Bynum
Collins
Choteau
Dutton
Power
Tiber Dam
Loma
Virgelle
Fort Benton
Old Fort Benton
Carter
Floweree
Portage
Black Eagle
Great Falls
Vaughn
Sun River
Fort Shaw
Simms
Fairfield
Augusta
Gibson Dam
Ulm
Malmstrom A.F.B.
Sand Coulee
Tracy
Stockett
Centerville
Belt
Fife
Highwood
Shonkin
Montague
Geraldine
Square Butte
Coffee Creek
Denton
Raynesford
Geyser
Stanford
Benchland
Windham
Hughesville
Monarch
Neihart
Moccasin
Hobson
Utica
Kolin
Ross Fork
Moore
Buffalo
Judith Gap
Garneill
Danvers
Eden
Cascade
Craig
Wolf Creek
Rogers Pass
Lincoln
Ovando
Helmville
Canyon Creek
Marysville
Austin
Helena
East Helena
York
Canyon Ferry
Avon
Elliston
Goldcreek
Garrison
Deer Lodge
Maxville
Philipsburg
Rimini
Unionville
Clancy
Montana City
Alhambra
Corbin
Wickes
Jefferson City
Winston
Basin
Boulder
Townsend
Radersburg
Toston
Lombard
Diamond City
White Sulphur Springs
Checkerboard
Martinsdale
Twodot
Harlowton
Shawmut
Castle
Ringling
Sixteen
Maudlow
Wilsall
Clyde Park
Melville
Big Timber
Greycliff
Springdale
Livingston
Bozeman
Belgrade
Manhattan
Logan
Trident
Three Forks
Willow Creek
Amsterdam
Churchill
Cardwell
Whitehall
Jefferson Island
La Hood
Harrison
Pony
Waterloo
Silver Star
Twin Bridges
Butte
Walkerville
Rocker
Opportunity
Warm Springs
Anaconda
Galen
Southern Cross
Divide
Melrose
Wise River
LEWIS AND CLARK NATIONAL FOREST
HELENA NATIONAL FOREST
LOLO NATIONAL FOREST
DEERLODGE NATIONAL FOREST
GALLATIN NATIONAL FOREST
BEAVERHEAD
CONTINENTAL DIVIDE
GARNET RANGE
BIG BELT MOUNTAINS
LITTLE BELT MOUNTAINS
CASTLE MTS.
CRAZY MOUNTAINS
HIGHWOOD MOUNTAINS
WHITE CLIFFS AREA
JUDITH BASIN
WHEATLAND
MEAGHER
BROADWATER
JEFFERSON
SWEET GRASS
Missouri River
Gates of the Mountains Wilderness
Canyon Ferry Lake
Hauser Dam
Holter Dam
Lewis and Clark Caverns
Missouri Headwaters
Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Freezeout Lake Wildlife Management Area
MAUREEN AND MIKE MANSFIELD HERITAGE ROUTE
MISSOURI RIVER ROAD
MONARCH NATIONAL FOREST SCENIC BYWAY
Virgelle Ferry Free 7 A.M. to 7 P.M. Sundays 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. May-October
Carter Ferry Free 7A.M. to 7P.M. Toll after 7P M. March-October
Judith Landing Rec. Area (Boat Ramp)
Coal Banks Landing Rec. Area (Boat Ramp)
Kings Hill Pass El. 7393
Crazy Peak El. 11214
Mt. Baldy El. 9472
Rogers Pass El. 5610
MacDonald Pass El. 6320
Elk Park Pass El. 6368
Homestake Pass El. 6375
Great Falls El. 3312

8. **Map/site plan: attach an original 8 ½" x 11" or larger section of the most recent USGS 7.5' series topographic map showing the location and boundaries of the area that would be affected by the proposed action. A different map scale may be substituted if more appropriate or if required by agency rule. If available, a site plan should also be attached.**

Rev. 3/93

9. **Narrative Summary of the Proposed Action or Project including the Benefits and Purpose of the Proposed Action.**
First, the proposed action is to stabilize existing banks upstream and downstream of boat ramp. The benefit is to slow down erosion and protect boat ramp. Secondly, the proposed action is to remove the existing boat ramp; reconstruct that boat ramp in same location. The benefit is a more usable and safe boat ramp.

10. **Listing of any other Local, State or Federal agency that has overlapping or additional jurisdiction.**

(a) Permits:

Agency Name	Permit	Date Filed/#
FWP	Stream Protection Act 124 Permit	

(b) Funding:

Agency Name	Funding Amount

© Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities:

Agency Name	Type of Responsibility

11. **List of Agencies Consulted During Preparation of the EA:**
Montana State Historic Preservation Office

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. LAND RESOURCES **Will the proposed action result in:**	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.
Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)
♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.
♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

► a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?		X				
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil which would reduce productivity or fertility?		X				
► c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		X				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		X				
f. Other _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

No significant soil changes or covering of any geological feature. No new erosion or deposition pattern.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

2. AIR **Will the proposed action result in:**	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
► a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (also see 13 (c))		X				
b. Creation of objectionable odors?			X			A
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		X				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X				
e.♦For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge which will conflict with federal or state air quality regs? (Also see 2a)		X				
f. Other _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Air Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A. During construction some objectionable odors may occur from machinery.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

► Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3. WATER Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
▸ a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?			X			A
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		X				
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of flood water or other flows?		X				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		X				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		X				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		X				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		X				
I. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		X				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		X				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		X				
l. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c)		X				
m. ♦For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a)		X				
n. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Water Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

▸ Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

if needed):

A: Minor unavoidable turbulence during construction - a silt fence will be installed to mitigate turbulence.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4. VEGETATION Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?		X				
b. Alteration of a plant community?		X				
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		X				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?			X			A
f. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands, or prime and unique farmland?		X				
g. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A. Some Spotted Knap Weed seed could be removed by dirt removal.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

♦ Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)
Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

▸ 5. FISH/WILDLIFE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		X				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		X				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		X				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?		X				
h. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f)		X				
i. ♦For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d)		X				
j. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

Should have no adverse affects on wildlife or fish.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			X			A
b. Exposure of people to serve or nuisance noise levels?			X			B
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		X				
e. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A: During construction noise levels from equipment will increase during certain times but no over all long lasting noise level change.

B: some recreationist or passerby might be momentarily affected by construction noise level.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

7. LAND USE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		X				
b. Conflicted with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		X				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?			X			A
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		X				
e. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A: Launching boats or bank fishing in the construction zone probably will be prohibited from site during daily construction hours.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		X				
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan or create a need for a new plan?		X				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?			X			A
d. ♦For P-R/D-J, will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a)		X				
e. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A: Daytime you have a construction site there is the possibiltily of a hazard. During construction site will be closed to use. When contractor's not on site safety fencing will be placed around hazards.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		X				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		X				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		X				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?			X			A
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		X				
f. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A. There may be some impact on commercial outfitters during construction. Site will be closed during construction.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify: _____		X				
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		X				
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		X				
d. Will the proposed action result in increased used of any energy source?		X				
► e. Define projected revenue sources		X				
► f. Define projected maintenance costs.		X				
g. Other:_____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

● Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

▸ 11. AESTHETICS/RECREATION Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?		X				
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		X				
▸c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report)		X				
d. ♦For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c)		X				
e. Other: _____						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

The Stickney Creek FAS project will enhance recreation opportunity by making a more pleasing experience to the users. The streambank restoration will help protect the bank and new boat ramp.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

▸ Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

12. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
►a. Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric historic, or paleontological importance?		X				
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X				
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X				
d. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? **Attach SHPO letter of clearance.** (Also see 12.a)		X				
e. Other: X						A

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

A. The Stickney Creek Fishing Access site was developed along Old Highway 91. The area was highly disturbed. The downstream bank is adjacent to Highway 91 right of way. The river bank next to highway is heavily rip rapped. There will not be any cultural disturbance.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

► Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	IMPACT☼				Can Impact Be Mitigated☼	Comment Index
	Unknown☼	None	Minor☼	Potentially Significant		
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources which create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		X				
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		X				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		X				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		X				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		X				
f. ♦For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e)			X			A
g. ♦♦For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required.				X		B

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed): A. This project could generate some minor opposition. Specifically impacted will be river users who launch at this site (both outfitted and private) during construction.

B: See page 3 of MEPA/NEPA HB 495 checklist for permits required and received.

☼ Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or can not be evaluated.

Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM)

♦ Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

♦♦ Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

2. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider and a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

1. No action - site still usable, potential safety issue with deterioration of boat ramp and bank erosion.

2. Proposed action - site usable, safe , easy to launch. The streambank when stabilized will contribute to longevity of boat ramp. Also site protection.

3. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:

No mitigation necessary. FWP is responsible for providing a safe, usable site that contributes to the users' enjoyment of the resources.

4. Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? YES / (NO) If an EIS is not required, explain <u>why</u> the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:

The EA is appropriate because it defines scope of work and environmental impacts.

5. Describe the level of public involvement for this project if any and, given the complexity and the seriousness of the environmental issues associated with the proposed action, is the level of public involvement appropriate under the circumstances?
A thirty (30) day comment period will be held. Notice will be posted on state electronic bulletin board and in local newspaper.

6. Duration of comment period if any:

30 days.

7. Name, title, address and phone number of the Person(s) Responsible for Preparing the EA:

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PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT

This project will replace the existing boatramp and bank structures and stabilize the bank along Stickney Creek Fishing Access Site (FAS) (T16N,R3W,S5). This heavily used site is one of the primary access points for the Missouri River waterway between Wolf Creek and Cascade, Montana below Holter Dam.

With no significant impacts to the environment it is FWP's recommendation that this project proceed after Labor Day this fall before weather precludes construction.